

IOWA STATE COMPLEX SITE FEATURE APPLICATION

THE TEACHER MONUMENT

Project: A tribute to the profession of teaching to be located on the terrace in the vicinity of the existing Bryant Boulder.

Name of Sponsoring Group: Iowa Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. (IAHPERD)

Date of Application: Fall 2011

Part I. Site Features Description and Details

- (a) Describe the general concept and subject matter. A boulder to be placed in proximity to the Bryant (school) Boulder celebrating professional educators. This project would complement the existing monuments for firemen, policemen, soldiers, sailors, and Iowa laborers. Engraved in the boulder would be one word: TEACHER. Iowa has a long history of great educators including James Van Allen, George Washington Carver, Carrie Chapman Catt; but there are thousands more that have made a difference and continue to do so on a daily basis.
- (b) Describe how the proposal meets the Guiding Principal of the Policy.
 - 1. This addition to the Capitol grounds would preserve and enhance the dignity and beauty with no impact on the architectural integrity of the Capitol or other state office buildings. The selected boulder will be of similar dimensions of the current boulder and the font of the engraving will be identical.
 - 2. This effort will not interfere with any public views to or from the Capitol. The boulder will not exceed 40 inches in height and will not impact any views from any point on the complex to any other point.
 - 3. This effort will protect and enhance the public open spaces on the Capitol Complex when deemed necessary for public use and enjoyment. Although the proposed site is located adjacent to the heavily traveled Grand Avenue and at the western edge of the grounds; the space is not frequently visited. The addition of one boulder to the space will have no negative impact and will complement the existing collection of trees and other boulder. During this year's Hy Vee Triathlon, perhaps one of the busiest of Capitol events, the area was monitored and remained off all beaten paths.
 - 4. This effort will be done with recognition of the diversity of adjacent neighborhoods and reinforces the connection of the Capitol complex, its neighbors and the city of Des Moines. This effort recognizes the diversity of all Iowa and connects the Capitol not only to Des Moines, but all Iowa communities.
 - 5. Accommodate pedestrian and motorized and non-motorized vehicular traffic that promote public accessibility where appropriate. The proposed site is located on a

- grassy terrace that has no sidewalk or vehicle access. While it presumably will increase foot and non-motorized traffic, it will remain as accessible as it is now.
6. We believe that this effort is fully compliant with the Iowa State Capitol Master Plan and efforts to create a venue that reflects our core values with dignity and grace.
 7. By celebrating this profession, we celebrate the diverse work of all exceptional teachers of both genders and all ethnic backgrounds.
 8. This is a nonpartisan concept.
 9. We believe that the vast majority of Iowans have at least one teacher that had a profound impact on their lives. This monument will thus provide an enriching experience that illuminates and celebrates our common appreciation of education and educators. It is difficult to imagine a value that plays a greater part in Iowa's heritage and culture.
 10. This monument will not identify financial contributors.
 11. This monument will comply with applicable Americans with Disabilities Act standards.
 12. This monument honors a profession rather than specific individuals and thus will not require a ten year moratorium.
 13. This effort while done with the aforementioned luminaries as James Van Allen, Carrie Chapman Catt, and George Washington Carver in mind, it is primarily intended to commemorate all outstanding teachers and thus is not subject to a ten year limitation. In that regard it is similar to the existing "Iowa Labor" monument that celebrates our work ethic.
- (c) *Estimate the anticipated cost of the Significant Impact Site Feature, including all design development and the site feature costs, which include any required modifications to site, such as improvements to sidewalks and utilities, plus a minimum of 10% of the total project cost for a maintenance and conservation endowment if a Significant Impact Site feature that is maintained by the Department. All costs associated with this monument will be covered by IAHPERD.*
- (d) Funds have already been collected (\$3,000) and volunteer services pledged that will cover all costs associated with this proposal. The funds came from IAHPERD members.
- (e) Describe the projected timeline for the project. Once approved the boulder will be placed at the site within a two month window. A date will be selected that will allow the greatest number of IAHPERD members and public to be involved.
- (f) Describe the maintenance and conservation plan for the Site Feature to ensure its continued quality, beauty and function in the future. Once the boulder is in place there will be no need for maintenance. The boulder will be placed on a bed of mulch that will also eliminate any need for trimming. In moving the boulder to its location care will be taken to protect existing sidewalks, grass, trees, and other existing structures.
- (g) Designate a single contact person, with contact information (name, address, phone, e-mail).
- Tim Lane
2220 EP True Parkway #20
West Des Moines, IA 50265

515-480-3717

Tim.otblabe@hotmail.com

(h) Classification: Minimal Impact Site Feature

Part II: Site Location

- (a) Setting: The terrace located at the NW corner of the Capitol complex across the street from the Wallace Building and near the Bryant monument. Given the school marker, it is an appropriate spot to honor professional educators. The boulder will be placed in such a way as to facilitate mowing between and around the two boulders.
- (b) Size and Scale: The size of the boulder will be approximately the same as the Bryant memorial already located in this area. Even when combined the two boulders would not overwhelm the small grove of trees that populate the area. Individuals looking for the “educator memorial” would need directions. The current area has trees, grass, and one boulder. This addition would alter the environment slightly.
- (c) The proposed design works with the existing Site Features and would not interfere with any Capitol aspect.

What site do you suggest for the location of the proposed Site Feature?

The proposed site is approximately ten feet to the east and slightly south of a line running east to west through the Bryant memorial. The location is more centered to the four large trees along Grand and the smaller trees closer to the crest of the terrace.

Part III: Design Description

- (a) The terrace located south of Grand and directly across the street from the Wallace Building and State Historical Building.
- (b) The size will be comparable to the boulder already located in this area.
- (c) The relationship between a school marker and celebration of the profession is a natural fit using natural elements.
- (d) A one word inscription will state “TEACHER.” If it is felt appropriate, a bronze plate will indicate it is to honor all Iowa educators that inspired and lit fires in the minds of other Iowans.
- (e) The material is granite and will provide a dignified, strong, and sustainable substance. It will have a lifespan greater than almost all other monuments on the complex.
- (f) There is no need or plans for any illumination.
- (g) The rock has been selected and will be delivered to the Des Moines area soon.
- (h) The text will mimic the style and size of the Bryant boulder and simply state TEACHER. The inscription will run across the flattest part of the boulder and will be spaced to run from edge to edge. There will be no credits or lists of any sort.

- (d) The boulder is granite and will have a life span greater than any other man made memorial on the complex.

Part IV: Other Information

To approach the memorial visitors would need to walk on the grass in the vicinity.